

1-1 By: Miller, Zerwas, Reynolds H.B. No. 2557
 1-2 (Senate Sponsor - Kolkhorst)
 1-3 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 15, 2017;
 1-4 May 15, 2017, read first time and referred to Committee on
 1-5 Transportation; May 17, 2017, reported favorably by the following
 1-6 vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 17, 2017, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			
1-17	X			

1-18 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-19 AN ACT

1-20 relating to the development of certain local government
 1-21 transportation infrastructure projects; authorizing the issuance
 1-22 of bonds.

1-23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-24 SECTION 1. Section 172.001, Transportation Code, is amended
 1-25 by adding Subdivision (4-a) and amending Subdivision (7) to read as
 1-26 follows:

1-27 (4-a) "Intelligent transportation system" means:

1-28 (A) innovative or intelligent technological
 1-29 transportation systems, infrastructure, or facilities, including
 1-30 elevated freight transportation facilities:

1-31 (i) in proximity to, or within, an existing
 1-32 right-of-way on the state highway system; or

1-33 (ii) that connect land ports of entry to the
 1-34 state highway system;

1-35 (B) communications or information processing
 1-36 systems that improve the efficiency, security, or safety of freight
 1-37 movement on the state highway system, including improving the
 1-38 conveyance of freight on dedicated intelligent freight lanes; or

1-39 (C) a transportation facility or system that
 1-40 increases truck freight efficiencies in the boundaries of an
 1-41 intermodal facility or hub.

1-42 (7) "Rail facilities" means:

1-43 (A) passenger or freight rail facilities,
 1-44 including:

1-45 (i) tracks;

1-46 (ii) a rail line;

1-47 (iii) switching, signaling, or other
 1-48 operating equipment;

1-49 (iv) a depot;

1-50 (v) a locomotive;

1-51 (vi) rolling stock;

1-52 (vii) a maintenance facility; and

1-53 (viii) other real and personal property
 1-54 associated with a rail operation;

1-55 (B) an intermodal hub;

1-56 (C) an automated conveyor belt for the movement
 1-57 of freight;

1-58 (D) an intelligent transportation system that
 1-59 operates with or as part of facilities described by Paragraphs

1-60 (A)-(C); or

1-61 (E) a system of facilities described by

2-1 ~~Paragraphs (A)-(D) [property, or an interest in that property, that~~
 2-2 ~~the board determines is necessary or convenient to provide a rural~~
 2-3 ~~rail transportation system; and~~
 2-4 ~~[(B) property or an interest necessary or~~
 2-5 ~~convenient to acquire, provide, construct, enlarge, remodel,~~
 2-6 ~~renovate, improve, furnish, use, or equip the system, including:~~
 2-7 ~~[(i) a right-of-way;~~
 2-8 ~~[(ii) an earthwork or structure, including~~
 2-9 ~~clearing and grubbing of right-of-way, demolition of a structure,~~
 2-10 ~~relocation of utilities, a pipeline, or any other obstacle in a~~
 2-11 ~~right-of-way, stripping and stockpiling, removal of subsoil for~~
 2-12 ~~embankment or spoil, a borrow pit, dressing and seeding of a slope,~~
 2-13 ~~construction of a culvert, a road crossing, a bridge, restoration~~
 2-14 ~~of a roadway, drainage within a right-of-way or along a road~~
 2-15 ~~network, and restoration of a hydrologic system;~~
 2-16 ~~[(iii) trackwork;~~
 2-17 ~~[(iv) a train control, including~~
 2-18 ~~signalling, interlocking equipment, speed monitoring equipment, an~~
 2-19 ~~emergency braking system, a central traffic control facility, and a~~
 2-20 ~~communication system;~~
 2-21 ~~[(v) a passenger or freight service~~
 2-22 ~~building, terminal, or station, a ticketing facility, a waiting~~
 2-23 ~~area, a platform, a concession, an elevator, an escalator, a~~
 2-24 ~~facility for handicapped access, an access road, a parking facility~~
 2-25 ~~for passengers, a baggage handling facility, a local maintenance~~
 2-26 ~~facility, and offices for district purposes and includes an~~
 2-27 ~~interest in real property necessary or convenient for an item~~
 2-28 ~~listed under this subparagraph;~~
 2-29 ~~[(vi) rolling stock; and~~
 2-30 ~~[(vii) a maintenance facility].~~

2-31 SECTION 2. Subchapter E, Chapter 172, Transportation Code,
 2-32 is amended by adding Section 172.211 to read as follows:

2-33 Sec. 172.211. OTHER POWERS OF COUNTY, DISTRICT, AND
 2-34 NAVIGATION DISTRICT. (a) This section applies only to a county
 2-35 that:

2-36 (1) is adjacent to a county with a population of four
 2-37 million or more;

2-38 (2) has a population of 300,000 or more; and

2-39 (3) has created a district by concurrent order with an
 2-40 adjacent county pursuant to Section 172.052.

2-41 (b) A county acting through the commissioners court or a
 2-42 local government corporation may adopt an order that authorizes the
 2-43 county and a navigation district located wholly or partly in the
 2-44 county to:

2-45 (1) develop rail facilities as a qualifying project
 2-46 under Chapter 2267, Government Code; and

2-47 (2) issue bonds for rail facilities secured by a
 2-48 pledge of the revenues of the facilities, including contract
 2-49 revenue, grant revenue, or other revenue collected in connection
 2-50 with the facilities.

2-51 (c) If each county that created a district adopts an order
 2-52 described by Subsection (b), the district may exercise the powers
 2-53 described by that subsection.

2-54 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
 2-55 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
 2-56 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
 2-57 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
 2-58 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

2-59 * * * * *